City of Rockville Routed To: 1:58 [1 City Attorney
City of Rockville 1:58 [] City Attorney Boards and Commissions Council
Application of Expression of Interestion [] Council Support Specialist
Date: 7/17 [] City Manager [-] Other Court Kell
Board/Commission Interested In: Human Rights
Name: Daron Bolat
Address:Apt.#
Name: Daron Bolat Address:
Home Phone Work Phone ()
E-Mail:Fax:
Note: Work phone numbers are for staff use only.
Summary of Work Experience: Research Assistant, Armenian Education
Counsel's Court Clerk, Register of Wills; Youth Director,
St. Many Armenian Church
Experience: Led Habitat For Humonity trip for coilege students.
Traveled to Armenian to build joinst youth programs
Education/Training: Ceftificate in Conflict Management, U of MD;
BA Criminal Justice, U = MD; MA Theology, St
Valences Octhoday Seminary
Volunteer Activities: Served on National Control Council, Armenian
Church Youth Organization of America; Various Ecomenical
algeniz-tlans
Professional Affiliations/Memberships:
Please describe your interest in serving on this Board/Commission See attached
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Please indicate here [] yes or [] no whether or not the City may give elected officials who serve Rockville (other than the Mayor and Council) your name and address. This information would not be used for any fund-raising, "issues" mailings or campaign mailings. No phone numbers will be given.

Please Return Form and Resume, if available, to: Mayor and Council c/o City Clerk's Office 111 Maryland Avenue Rockville, MD 20850 240-314-8280

To whom it may concern:

There are several reasons I would like to serve on the Human Rights Commission. Issues related to human rights have always played an important part in my life. I also have experience and education, which I believe would be beneficial to the committee.

One of the events that has defined me as a person happened decades before I was even born. My families, along with a million and a half other Armenians, were victims of genocide in 1915. I would here hear stories from by grandparents about what happened to their parents and how they survived. Because of the experience of my family, the issue of genocide recognition and prevention is very important to me. I have sought to learn about not only the Armenian Genocide, but also the Holocaust, Cambodian genocide, Rwandan, and Darfur. I have also been involved with efforts to raise awareness of genocide both on a local and national level.

Another aspect of human rights that I am interested is that of religion and faith. I have seen and experienced how religion can lead to conflict and serve as a divisive force, but more importantly I have seen how faith can serve as a force for healing and bringing people together. During the Armenian Genocide many people were forcibly converted, and my great grandparents could have survived had they given up their Christian faith. My Christian faith is a very important part of who I am. During my graduate studies at seminary, I learned not only about my own religion, but also about other faiths; more importantly I learned the importance of how different faiths can all work together to benefit humanity. A , few years ago, I was an assistant leader on a pilgrimage that the Diocese of the Armenian Church organized to the Holy Land. One of the most moving experiences was when, in one day, we visited the Western Wall, the Al Agsa Mosque, and the Church of the Holy Sepulture. These three sites make up the holiest sites for Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. That day I not only grew in my own Christian faith, but also grew in my respect of Judaism and Islam. I also helped found an organization that brings together Orthodox Christina youth Nearly all religions share commonalities such as charity, mercy, and love. These are all things we can build bridges from.

A third aspect of human rights which I am personally connected to is people with disabilities. I have struggled with stuttering throughout my life. Although stuttering is not as physically debilitating as other disabilities, stuttering certainly has a profound impact on people's lives. It has certainly had a profound impact on my life. Not being able to say what I want when I want, and how I want has been very frustrating. I have been in therapy for years, and have gone a long way in overcoming my stuttering. The most important aspect of my stuttering is that I have been able to overcome is the fear of speaking. Despite the fact that I still stutter in many situations, I am no longer afraid to speak. I

have, and continue to speak publicly whenever I can. I believe it I important to encourage and support people with disabilities to achieve all they can.

Throughout my education I have always been interested in human rights. While at the University of Maryland, I received a certificate in Conflict Management; I hope that I can use my experience to assist in the conflict resolution work of the commission. The more we know about the diverse communities that make up our community, the better we can serve them.

I look forward to finding out more about the work of the commission and getting involved first hand.

Daron Bolat

Rockville, MD 20850

EDUCATION

MA, General Theology

May 2005

St. Vladimir's Orthodox Seminary, Yonkers, NY

Certificate, Armenian Christian Studies

May 2005

St. Nersess Armenian Seminary, New Rochelle, NY

BA in Criminal Justice

May 2005

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Advanced Certificate in Conflict Management

May 2005

Center for International Development and Conflict Management, University of Maryland

DEVELOPED PROFICIENCY WITH THESE SKILLS AND SYSTEMS

Conflict Resolution

MS Office Suite: Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, FrontPage

Crystal Reporting System

MAC OS LexisNexis Westlaw

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Rapid Advance, LLC, Washington, DC

Legal Collections Administrator

10/2008 - present

- Investigate and determine course of action for all legal accounts
- * Enter and monitor files in legal database
- Communicate with in-house and outside counsels
- Research and follow-up on bankruptoles involving merchants
- · Prepare accounts for suit
- · Follow up with accounts requiring court action
- Speak for Rapid Advance in court proceedings

St. Mary Armenian Apostolic Church, Washington DC

Director of Youth Ministry and Religious Education

09/2006 - 10/2008

- Evaluated and developed all youth and educational programming in parish
- Provided outreach to youth, young adults and parents of youth
- Trained teachers and young adult leaders in religious studies
- Facilitated and lead organizational meetings within the parish
- Developed and maintained relationships with various organizations and churches in the DC Metro area

Montgomery County Register of Wills, Rockville, MD

Courtroom Clerk

03/2001-08/2003

- Clerked hearings for Orphan's Court in Montgomery County
- · Prepared briefs for judges in cases of the Orphan's Court
- · Created and maintained physical and digital files for the Register of Wills
- Analyzed and entered data in operating system

Armenian Educational Counsel, Washington, DC

Research Assistant

02/2000 - 03/2001

- · Conducted oral history research relating to the Armenian Genocide
- Created and maintained database including information from oral history research
- Collaborated with external organizations to archive information and further organizational research

Howrey & Simon, LLP, Washington, DC

Paralegal

06/1999 - 08/1999

- Examined documents for use by attorneys
- Prepared database of documents
- · Conducted data analysis and entry of case files

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Fluent in Armenian and Turkish
Planned and executed national event for over 400 attendees in Washington, DC
Staff Director for National Diocesan summer camp program